



EFFORTS TO SAVE THE LIFE of Vincent Richard Gorman, 54, proved futile as flames enveloped his body. It was believed the blaze was started by a lighted cigaret in Gorman's hand. He died at his home 2061 W. 235th st. A crew of firemen quickly put out the fire. Fire Chief J. J. Benner said that he was unable to estimate the exact damage but believed the material amount would be small. It is reported that Gorman's clothes from the front of his body were completely burned off. —Pressphoto.

Cigaret Fire Causes Death of Local Man

Herolem didn't pay off last week in a fire due to a series of tragic facts. Here they are:
Vincent Richard Gorman, 54, who apparently fell asleep with a lighted cigaret in his hand, burned to death at 2061 W. 235th street.
However, if Clifton C. Cullem, 2061 1/2 W. 235th street, had known which fire department served his area or that the house next door had a telephone, Gorman might still be alive today, it is believed. Cullem was new in the neighborhood, fire records show.
Cullem returned from work about 12:30 a.m. last Sat. and noticed a light in Gorman's house, he reported.
An hour later, when Cullem started to go to bed, he noticed a blaze in Gorman's house. He drove a mile and a half to the Lomita Fire Department.
Here he learned that the fire was in Torrance.
While the Lomita department notified the Torrance unit, Cullem drove back to the scene and attempted to rescue Gorman.
The effort was futile as flames had enveloped the building. Fire Chief J. J. Benner's firemen fought the blaze for nearly three hours before being able to take Gorman's body from the building.
His clothes were burned off his body except on his back. His wife, who was with her sister in a trailer at 1270 101 Highway, when the tragedy occurred, lost most of her clothing in the blaze.
Gorman's body was taken to Stone and Myers. He had been a resident of Torrance for the past 30 years. By vocation, he was a machinist.

Postal Business Spirals

Activities in the U. S. Post Office in Torrance have spiraled sharply since one year ago. Reports for the month of October to November show that total receipts were \$20,185.30.
One year ago during the same month, the total intake was \$14,981.37, according to Mrs. Clara A. Conner, Postmaster.
She also reported that the number of packages taken in over the window — not counting business firm packages, total more than 200 a day.
Not more than one-half dozen parcels are broken due to poor wrapping every month, it was revealed.

Retraction

On June 8, 1950, under the title of "Blocking Tactics Bring Inquiry" this newspaper published an article reporting a statement that Harold B. Bolas was using his office as a member of the City Planning Commission "for other than the best interest of the city."
This newspaper retracts, unconditionally and in full, any implication in any article published in this newspaper that may have discredited Mr. Bolas.

Construction Tops 12 Millions Here

Construction in Torrance hit a new high mark for the year so far although the total of \$311,820 in permits for October was comparatively small.
Records at the City Hall show total permits issued for the year to date equals \$12,000,318.
This figure is more than \$1,500,000 greater than the \$10,403,119 construction value for the same period last year, a record year.
City officials said that although October permits were the smallest brought in so far this year, this November will be one of the biggest recorded to date.
Permits issued for the month of October include the following:
Charles B. Oaks, a private garage at 17114 Ardath avenue, valued at \$500.
\$10,000 HOME
Loren Maddux is building a house and residence for Q. W. Hokanson at 22730 Grammercy—valued at \$10,000.
Tom Brummett is adding an addition to his premises at 2439 Grammercy—valued at \$375.
G. A. Baumen is building a storage building at 4024 Pacific Coast Highway—valued at \$3000.
John Ruckle is adding an addition to his residence at 188st—(Continued on Page Eight)

New Gate to Be Open for Last 3 Games

A new ticket gate on the Plaza Del Amo side, just north of the Board of Education, will be open for the last three Torrance High School football games, Principal John Steinbaugh, announced today. The Tartars play Redondo Beach in a homecoming game this Friday.
He said that the parking space will also be available. The principal pointed out that during the greater part of the season three regular gates and a student gate have been open.



HOMECOMING ACTIVITIES at Torrance High School tomorrow evening will have a special meaning for the four young ladies pictured above. They are members of the Homecoming Court and will have a special place in the bleachers during the game with Redondo Beach. The court consists of left to right Princess Marian McDonald, Homcoming Queen Shirley York and Princess Karen Ness. Seated in front is Princess El Dora Brown.

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Volunteers Put Over Community Chest Campaign

Torrance was one of the first cities to go over the top in its one day Community Chest residential campaign, Jack Dabbs reported this week.
The residential unit was headed by Mrs. E. T. Whitney and by Division Chairman Ed Schwartz. They set up headquarters in the YWCA during the campaign.
The quota of \$2221 was exceeded on schedule in the one-day canvass by volunteers, it was revealed. Actually the residential committee managed to go over the top by \$14 during that period.
The business area is reported, is almost complete. Money is also coming in from the industrial sections, Dabbs disclosed.
He said that the total quota for Torrance is in the neighborhood of \$29,000.

North Torrance Civil Defense Gets Underway

Civil Defense activities started in earnest at North Torrance this week. Mrs. Albert Gianni, chairman of the North Torrance Casualty Committee, called a meeting at her home 2131 West 182nd St.
There were fourteen residents of the area present.
The group quickly settled down to work and chose the following chairman:
SWAN CHOSEN
Mrs. Robert Swan was chosen as the Professional Chairman. She will contact professional people of the area and find out what part they can play in North Torrance's Civil Defense. She may be contacted at her home 18820 Haaf Ave.
Mrs. Patricia Bartlet, who lives at 16210 Haaf Ave., was drafted as first aid chairman, even though she wasn't at the meeting.
Both Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Stevenson, also not present, who reside at 2246 West 182nd St., were drafted to fill positions. (Continued on Page Eight)

Lomita Drive For Chest Continues

As far as Lomita is concerned, their Community Chest campaign isn't over although the area exceeded its goal by two dollars last Tuesday.
This week, their total had swelled to \$1833 which is \$98 more than the quota. So far Lomita has raised \$103.85 per cent of its goal.
This year Lomita had increased its Chest goal nearly \$400 over last year.
And even though the city has gone over the top, Mrs. Gale Ford and her residential workers haven't stopped yet.

Collision Sends Man to Hospital

An autoist was in jail this week while a motorcyclist Kenneth Rosbottom, 23, was resting in Harbor General Hospital with possible serious injuries, according to Police. Reports at the Hospital yesterday evening showed that the injured man was "getting along well."
The jailed man was William J. Warren, 28, of 2244 W. 248th Street in Lomita. He was held on suspicion of drunken driving.
He was picked up last Saturday after Rosbottom of 2583 1/2 Oak street, also of Lomita, rammed into the rear of Warren's auto at 236th street and Pennsylvania.

Torrance PRESS

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GROWTH FORCES SEARCH FOR MORE SCHOOL FUNDS

Any Problems? Here's the Dope on Municipal Meetings!

Frequent inquiries by residents within the circulation area of the Press as to when meetings of municipal Boards and Commissions are held made this newspaper decide to publish as complete a list as it could obtain.
It was discovered that several public bodies schedule meetings infrequently and give no notice to the public.
These include the Civil Defense Board, the Library Board, the Parking Authority, and the Traffic Committee.

'Y' Sponsors Good Neighbor Annual Affair

More original ideas continued to flow on the YMCA's Good Neighbor Breakfast, to be held a week from Saturday when the "Y" money raising board met at the Ding How Cafe, last week. Another meeting is scheduled today.
Milt Isbell, YMCA executive secretary, announced that two letters have come in nominating Mrs. Margaret O'Toole as a good neighbor. Anyone who knows a good neighbor should send a recommendation to the Y, it was announced.
The Good Neighbor will be selected at the breakfast on November 17. Breakfast will be served from 6:30 to 11:30 a.m.
R. I. Plomert, chairman of the fund raising campaign, announced that tickets for adults are \$1.00 and children may be admitted for \$50.
One of the letters nominating Mrs. O'Toole which the YMCA received, read:
"I nominate Mrs. Marge O'Toole for a good neighbor because I have lived next door to her for five years or more and from the first time I ever saw (Continued on Page Two)

BREHMAN THANKS PRESS FOR HELP IN ELIMINATING CITY LOT WEEDS

Editor: Torrance Press
I want to thank you for printing a picture of the lot filled with weeds and other rubbish which has been a land mark in our city of Torrance for several years.
It may have been a typical scene but the lot near the library and civic center has caused much comment by sincere persons who take pride in keeping their city clean and in keeping its cultural and business aspects.
Your November 1st issue has proven that your paper brings results for which you are to be congratulated. Early the same day a conscientious man and a lover of Torrance began cleaning the lot and I understand did the work gratis which reveals that your paper is also read by persons taking pride in our city.
It is certainly a worthy gesture and we pray that many blessings come to this man (Mr. Robb) in return for his kind consideration of our fast growing town of Torrance.
If city officials claim that the weed ordinance in its present form cannot be enforced, I advise revision at once. If property owners do not cooperate in keeping lots clean, a city ordinance, compelling them to do so or to pay the city for doing the work should be enforced.
Yours for continued progress,
(signed) ORSON D. BREHMAN

AGREEMENT ENDS STRIKE THREAT HERE

A threatened strike of food clerks who are members of Retail Clerks Local No. 905 was avoided this week when the Harbor Area Employers' Council reached an agreement with the clerks union on terms of the 1951-52 contract.
The new agreement arrived at by the negotiating committees of the Employers' Council and the Union provides that the term of the contract remains unchanged, effective Nov. 1, 1951 and expiring Nov. 1, 1952, according to Frank S. Selover, executive secretary of the Employers' Council.
Clerks were granted an increase in wages equal to that allowable under regulations of the Wage Stabilization Board retroactive to Nov. 1, 1951, and subject to proper filing with the Board. Estimates of this amount run between \$3.60 and \$3.90 per week, per clerk, Selover said.
John T. Binkley, counsel for the Employers, said that the Union agreed that "Any increase in wages on May 1, 1952, will be automatic, providing that the Bureau of Labor Statistics Cost of Living Index, based on the latest figures available on May 1, 1952, has reached a point to be determined by translating \$1.50 into a percentage increase and applying that percentage to the present cost of living index figure of 186.6." According to this figure, Binkley said, this point should be 186.6 plus 3.8, or 190.4 points.
Employment of box boys at \$1.00 per hour, with duties limited to the handling of merchandise after it becomes the property of the customer, and other acts not the work of clerks, also was agreed upon.
Other changes include a seniority clause, applicable after one-year's employment with an employer; a hiring clause conforming to Taft-Hartley law, and a successors and assigns clause to bind new owners to the food agreement.
The exact rate of increase allowable to clerks as of the November 1, 1951, effective date will not be determined until after a wage survey now underway is completed, Selover said.

Problem Eased by Counsel's Ruling

Future need for a bond issue seemed to be implied at the Board of Education meeting this week in a report submitted by Superintendent J. H. Hull Tuesday evening.
The report in part read:
"We are just beginning a building program. The war babies have been housed, but now it is the postwar babies that are entering our schools.
"These children will require every bit of bonding capacity the District possesses. They will require every bit of aid from sources that we can muster."
"The policy of the District must include stiff, strict, unbending economy in the building program to make the funds go as far as possible.
"Other sources of funds must be found. These are the facts that must be faced.
"We must use every dollar we have, stretch it as far as we can, and find more dollars somewhere."
The report further stressed that the first grade class in the Torrance schools has 626 pupils, and the kindergarten, 865.
It was pointed out that the first grade class next year will exceed 900 students.
"As classes of this size pro-

Stores Open For Holiday Next Month

Retailers employing help under the jurisdiction of the several labor unions in the Harbor Area were reminded this week by Frank S. Selover, executive secretary of the Harbor Area Employers' Council, of the holiday status involving employees on Armistice day, Monday, November 12.
Under the prevailing contracts, working conditions on Monday, the legal holiday in view of the fact that Armistice day this year falls on Sunday, follow:
1. All stores under the Mercantile Contract with Retail Clerks Local No. 905, including drug stores, department stores, dress shops, hardware stores, furniture, radio and television stores, jewelers, variety stores, and miscellaneous classifications, may remain open at straight time.
2. Food stores under contract with Retail Clerks Local 905 may remain open if they pay clerks working time and one-half in addition to straight time.
3. Shoe stores are closed under the terms of the Clerks contract.
4. Liquor stores may remain open if they pay clerks double time.
5. Meat markets under jurisdiction of Butchers Local No. (Continued on Page Two)

Benner's Fire Crew Called Twice on Sun.

Sunday was not a day of rest for Chief J. J. Benner's Fire Department Crew. Two alarms, shortly after 6 p.m. sent both fire engines from the main headquarters on a wild goose chase.
Fire number one occurred at Green's Hog Ranch out on the Northwest boundary line.
Fire department reports show that damage was of a minor nature — mainly grass and rubbish on the main.
Reports show that a television set had been left on for two days. An overheated switch caught on fire. There appeared to be no damage.

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TORRANCE CITY CLERK A. H. Bartlett is about ready to break into a smile as he gets out of his car to buy a ticket to the annual Police Show—to be held this Saturday evening at Torrance High School. Officer selling the ticket to Bartlett is A. L. Jackson. Watching the proceedings are Torrance Judge Otto B. Willett at the far left as he holds the door open and Chief of Police John H. Stroh at the far right.

Torrance High Celebrates Homecoming Tomorrow!

(See Story Page Four)